

Official Remarks by US Chargé d’Affairs John Dinkelman

Bahamas – U.S. Partnership Dialogue

December 17, 2012, 08:55 A.M.

Right Honorable Perry G. Christie, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Distinguished Guests, with protocol having been established, I am pleased to welcome you to the first U.S.- Bahamian bilateral dialogue on citizen security and law enforcement priorities.

Our meeting today builds upon the close ties between our two nations and our common interests in promoting democracy, enhancing stability and improving security.

I would like to thank The Bahamas for demonstrating its commitment to advancing our common interests for it is only through true partnership that we can successfully address the challenges confronting each of our nations.

As you begin preparations to celebrate forty years of independence, know that the concerns of the Bahamian people are also our concerns, which is why dialogues, such as the one that is being held here today, are so very important to making sure that the ties that we have forged continue to flourish.

It is my distinct honor to introduce, The U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Mrs. Liliana Ayalde who oversees U.S. policy issues involving Cuba, Central America and the Caribbean. Mrs. Ayalde has accumulated more than 28 years of experience in diplomacy and development serving in overseas Posts including Bangladesh, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Colombia, and Guatemala. She most recently served as US Ambassador to Paraguay.

Distinguished Guests, it is my pleasure to introduce to you the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, Mrs. Liliana Ayalde.